

is another Health and Human Services Committee bill brought to us by the Department of Aging. It deals with the budgetary timing issue that is not a very big problem but it was felt that rather than waiting till the fiscal year start of July 1 to get budgets from the areas on aging, area agencies on aging, they would get them 60 days prior to that time so they could better plan for the upcoming fiscal year. That's really all the bill does. It allows for those budgets to be submitted prior to the budget cycle to give the Department of Aging more time to review them. Very small bill. Ask for advancement of the bill.

SPEAKER BAACK: Discussion on LB 818. Seeing none, Senator Wesely, do you wish to close? He waives closing. We will now vote on the advancement of LB 818. All those in favor vote aye, opposed vote no. Record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 26 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on the advancement of the bill.

SPEAKER BAACK: LB 818 advances. We'll go to LB 526.

CLERK: LB 526, introduced by Senator Bohike. (Read title.) The bill was introduced on January 19, referred to the Urban Affairs Committee, advanced to General File. I have no amendments to the bill.

SPEAKER BAACK: Senator Bohlke.

SENATOR BOHLKE: Mr. President and members, you should be now receiving a copy of an article from the Lincoln Journal on your desk. The article appeared in the paper the night before the public hearing on this bill. The article describes the financial struggle that is faced by juvenile emergency shelters which provide round-the-clock temporary care in crisis situations. LB 526 attempts to relieve some of the financial burdens for these programs by allowing municipalities to contract with the facilities and to provide funds for their operations through those contracts. It is important to recognize that this bill does not mandate any action by cities, it merely gives them the opportunity to help. I am introducing this bill because the City of Hastings has attempted to provide funding for the Child Development Center Council Shelter in Hastings. However, the city was prevented from helping due to the lack of authority. The city is able to provide funds for meals on wheels and retired senior volunteer programs under